

SENATE—Friday, October 1, 1999

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Dr. Winford L. Hendrix, Vienna Baptist Church, Vienna, VA.

We are pleased to have you with us.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Dr. Winford L. Hendrix, offered the following prayer:

May we pray together, please.

On behalf of this assembly, Lord, thank You for another week of their service in Your kingdom and for our beloved country. And today we pray that You will grant the kind of understanding which will enable this Senate to see beneath the surface and identify the implications, consequences, and benefits of the decisions they shall make. May each Senator sense Your divine leadership in determining what is well founded, fair, and equitable; indeed, what is for the good of all the citizens of this great land. And I pray that You may reward all who respond to Your divine prompting with an inner sense of peace and fulfillment. In Your Holy Name we pray. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable PAUL COVERDELL, a Senator from the State of Georgia, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING
MAJORITY LEADER**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Senator from Pennsylvania is recognized.

Mr. SPECTER. I thank the distinguished President pro tempore.

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, let me comment at the outset what a great pleasure it is to see you opening the Senate again this morning, looking hale and hardy. We keep moving the time earlier and earlier; but no matter how early it is, you are always here first.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. I thank the Senator very much.

SCHEDULE

Mr. SPECTER. On behalf of the leader, I have been asked to announce that

we will now begin 30 minutes of debate on the amendment offered by the distinguished Senator from Maine, Ms. COLLINS, regarding diabetes. Following that debate, the Senate will proceed to a vote on the amendment at approximately 9:30 a.m.

The Senate is expected to continue consideration of the Labor-HHS bill during today's session. Senators who still intend to offer amendments to the bill are encouraged to work with the managers to schedule time for those amendments. Following the Labor-HHS bill today, there will be a period of morning business.

The leader advised me last night that the Senate will be proceeding to other business on Monday and Tuesday and that we will return to the Labor-HHS bill on Wednesday.

There are a great many amendments pending. As the chairman of the full committee announced yesterday, it is his intention, and for that matter, mine, too, to challenge any amendments which violate rule XVI; that is, to offer legislation on an appropriations bill. I encourage all Senators to consult with me or have their staffs consult with committee staff to work out time agreements and sequencing so that when the amendment is called we can move to it as promptly as possible.

The leader called my attention to the fact that following next week's session, we will be on the holiday for Columbus Day, so there may be some motivation for people to want to get the Senate business in order to be concluded as promptly as possible before the start of that 3-day weekend.

I thank the Chair.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEWINE). Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

**DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2000**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Also, under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 1650, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (S. 1650) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from

Maine is recognized to offer amendment No. 1824 on which there will be 30 minutes of debate equally divided.

The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. I thank the Chair.

AMENDMENT NO. 1824

(Purpose: To express the sense of the Senate that diabetes and its resulting complications have had a devastating impact on Americans of all ages in both human and economic terms, and that increased support for research, education, early detection, and treatment efforts is necessary to take advantage of unprecedented opportunities for progress toward better treatments, prevention, and ultimately a cure)

Mr. President, I do call up amendment No. 1824, which is at the desk, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Maine [Ms. COLLINS], for herself, Mr. BREAU, and Mr. GRASSLEY, proposes an amendment numbered 1824.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following:

SEC. —. EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO RAISE THE AWARENESS OF THE DEVASTATING IMPACT OF DIABETES AND TO SUPPORT INCREASED FUNDS FOR DIABETES RESEARCH.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Diabetes is a devastating, lifelong condition that affects people of every age, race, income level, and nationality.

(2) Sixteen million Americans suffer from diabetes, and millions more are at risk of developing the disease.

(3) The number of Americans with diabetes has increased nearly 700 percent in the last 40 years, leading the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to call it the "epidemic of our time".

(4) In 1999, approximately 800,000 people will be diagnosed with diabetes, and diabetes will contribute to almost 200,000 deaths, making diabetes the sixth leading cause of death due to disease in the United States.

(5) Diabetes costs our nation an estimated \$105,000,000,000 each year.

(6) More than 1 out of every 10 United States health care dollars, and about 1 out of every 4 Medicare dollars, is spent on the care of people with diabetes.

(7) More than \$40,000,000,000 a year in tax dollars are spent treating people with diabetes through Medicare, Medicaid, veterans benefits, Federal employee health benefits, and other Federal health programs.

(8) Diabetes frequently goes undiagnosed, and an estimated 5,400,000 Americans have the disease but do not know it.

(9) Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure, blindness in adults, and amputations.